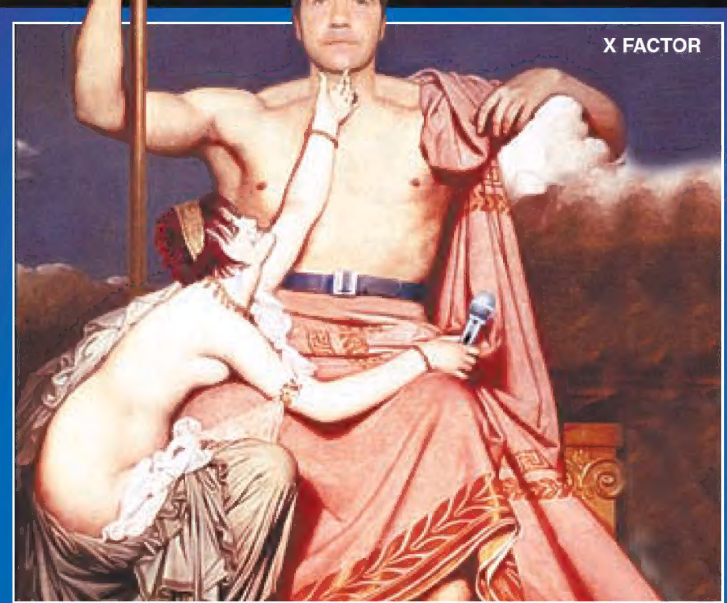


Have an Abi Xmas

Page 11

SEXY
 NEW
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 PICS

Pictures: BIGCELEBRITIES.CO.UK



X FACTOR



LITTLE
 BRITAIN

TV stars get well oiled

2004 COMEDY
 AWARDS PICTURE
 EXCLUSIVE Page 5



SVEN'S SECRET BABY SHOCK

EXCLUSIVE

HEARTBROKEN Nancy Dell'Olio yesterday revealed she had a miscarriage when she was expecting England boss Sven Eriksson's baby. Full story: Page 9



PM reeling after Blunkett hammer blow

BLAIR'S
ON THE
ROPES

HARD HIT:
Blair's got to pick himself up off the canvas



by MACER HALL
Political Editor

TONY Blair will begin his desperate bid to rebuild his election campaign next week after the humiliating exit of David Blunkett.

The Prime Minister's attempt to stay in Downing Street – with crime and security as key issues – has been severely damaged by the Home Secretary's departure in the sex and visa scandal.

While Mr Blair is still thought to be heading for a third election victory next May, Labour chiefs fear his Commons majority will be slashed if the Government fails to get its law and order message across to voters.

Labour MPs fear Mr Blair – in Brussels last night for an EU summit – could be tarnished after wrongly claiming Mr Blunkett would be “exonerated” of abusing his position.

An insider said: “It’s a setback. We need to re-think our future strategy.”

Tough-talking Mr Blunkett, 57, had been heading the Government's security drive with seven

proposed new laws including the introduction of ID cards.

New Home Secretary Charles Clarke, 54, yesterday promised “continuity” at the Home Office – but he is widely thought to be less hardline than his predecessor

We need to rethink our future

and sceptical about ID cards. Former Labour leader Neil Kinnock, 62, a close pal of Mr Clarke's, said: “His instincts are definitely liberal. His strongest motivating force is justice.”

Labour's hopes that the controversy around Mr Blunkett would fade were dashed yesterday as the Tories raised concern of a cover-up. Shadow Home Secretary

David Davis, 55, demanded details of what happened at the Home Office in the visa scandal that led to the Home Secretary's downfall.

Mr Blunkett quit on Wednesday after admitting his officials speeded up a visa application for Leonora Casalmé, the 36-year-old Filipino nanny of his ex-lover Kimberly Quinn, 43.

Cabinet Ministers paid tribute to Mr Blunkett despite his controversial resignation and recent insults towards colleagues.

Slagged

Election supremo Alan Milburn, 46, said: “I’d like to see him back in the Government. I think he has been a great Home Secretary.”

And Health Secretary John Reid, 57 – one of the few Ministers not slagged off by Mr Blunkett in his biography – added: “David is a sad loss.”

Mr Blair, 51, yesterday completed the mini-reshuffle forced by Mr Blunkett's resignation.

He promoted junior education minister Stephen Twigg, 37, to Minister of State for Education.

Labour whip 45-year-old Derek Twigg – no relation – filled the junior education post.



OVER: Blunkett goes home yesterday

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Talk No catch

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Kelly eyes votes

NEW Education Secretary Ruth Kelly is to play a key role in Labour's election campaign next year.

The 36-year-old MP has enjoyed a meteoric rise to one of the Cabinet's top jobs.

Tony Blair sees the brainy mum-of-four as central to a drive to win back fed-up

women voters to Labour. She was elected to Bolton West in 1997 and is the youngest Cabinet minister.

Labour strategists fear many female voters have switched away from Labour after the Iraq War but Mr Blair hopes Ms Kelly could help to woo them back.



YOUNG GUN: Ruth Kelly

STAR NEWS TO YOUR MOBILE

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IRA trio jailed

THREE Irishmen with IRA links have been jailed for 17 years in Colombia on terror charges.

Niall Connolly, James Monaghan and Martin McCauley trained South American guerrillas in bombing techniques.

Their sentences come after the Colombian government appealed against an earlier verdict which cleared the men.

They were arrested in Bogota's

international airport in August 2001 after returning from a rebel stronghold region.

They were charged with holding fake passports and training the rebel group Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in terror tactics.

But in a trial earlier this summer Judge Jaime Acosta only convicted the men on charges of passport fraud.

DiCaprio in his sexiest film role

● PAGE 60-61



GOSS 1647 ● TELLY 48-51
HOT 20-21 ● STARS 54
JANE 42 ● PUZZLES 57

GOT A STORY?

Phone the Daily Star news desk. We pay for good info and tips

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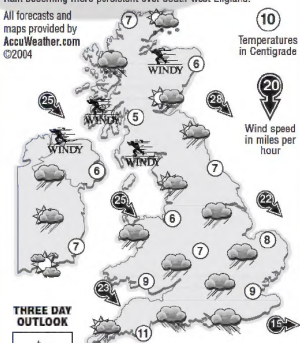
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INFO STATION

TODAY: Cloudy and windy at times with rain spreading eastward across the south. Localized rainfall may be heavy. Very windy and feeling cold over the north with a few blustery showers, some may be wintry.

OUTLOOK: Windy and chilly across the United Kingdom with bright and sunny intervals. Some wintry showers across the north. Rain becoming more persistent over south-west England.

All forecasts and maps provided by AccuWeather.com ©2004



THREE DAY OUTLOOK

Saturday A shower

Sunday Chilly

Monday Some sun

POUND ABROAD

Australia	2.55 dollars
Canada	2.38 dollars
Cyprus	0.85 pounds
Czech Republic	44.41 korunas
Mexico	21.78 pesos
South Africa	11.18 rand
Thailand	76.46 baht
Turkey	277.055 liras
United States	1.94 dollars

EURO

Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland, Portugal, Spain	€ 1.45
--	--------

ABROAD

Alicante	fair	17C (62F)
Corfu	rain	14C (57F)
Dublin	rain	8C (46F)
L. Angeles	sunny	27C (80F)
Majorca	fair	15C (59F)
Miami	showers	24C (75F)

Moscow	cloudy	0C (32F)
N. York	fair	9C (48F)
Nice	cloudy	11C (52F)
Paris	rain	9C (48F)
Rhodes	cloudy	13C (55F)
Rome	cloudy	13C (55F)
Tenerife	sunny	16C (61F)

Star Weather

UK National 0905 062 3827

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Calls cost 60p/min from a BT landline

LOTTO DAILY PLAY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

4 5 7 12 13 16 27

No ticket matched all 7 balls for the £30,000 prize

SATURDAY LOTTO

DECEMBER 11

7 9 19 23 27 49 1

Three ticket holders share the £3.9m jackpot

EXTRA: 12, 14, 17, 24, 36, 41 T'Ball 2, 11, 13, 18, 25 (T'Ball 14)

No Extra winners. No T'Ball winner got £250,000 jackpot

WEDNESDAY LOTTO

DECEMBER 15

7 11 19 25 31 39 23

Estimated jackpot £2.9m

EXTRA: 10, 12, 13, 24, 27, 34 T'Ball: 11, 14, 16, 31, 34 (T'Ball 11)

EURO LOTTO

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

1, 3, 13, 16, 43 Lucky Star Numbers 2, 7

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



Recycled paper made up 65.9% of the new material for UK newspapers in 2000

Emma

BOOKIES say there is little chance of snow falling on Christmas Day – and it's no wonder with our ice maiden Emma raising the temperature as she makes her Page 3 debut today.

Despite the forecast, the 20-year-old from Birmingham is dreaming of a white Christmas – and a future in the nation's favourite paper. "I wonder if your readers will like me," she said. Yule do fine, Emma!

Picture: JEANY SAVAGE



HOT BABES TO YOUR MOBILE

DOWNLOAD a great topless picture of Emma direct to your mobile by texting STARBABE to 88833. See Page 18 for full details.

Downloads cost £1.50 plus your usual network SMS rate. Calls cost £1.50 a minute. Average call length one minute.

JOHNNY'S CRYING IN HIS BEER

I'm allergic to Guinness

COMIC Johnny Vegas is shipping in a load of Guinness for Christmas – even though he's allergic to the stuff.

■ EXCLUSIVE by TOM SAVAGE

The Northern funnyman revealed last night that he gets covered in blotches when he downs the black stuff.

Johnny 34, told the Daily Star: "I can't keep away from it, but it brings me out in a rash."

The comedian's original act revolved around him downing pints of stout as he told tales while sat at a potter's wheel.

A half-empty pint glass also became an ever-present prop by his side when he appeared on Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer's madcap quiz show Shooting Stars.

And last week he told how he stunned locals on the set of new comedy Dead Man Weds, which hits screens next month, by drinking through the night.

"I broke a record by boozing until 7.30 in the morning, so the manager chalked it up on the blackboard," he said.

"I don't know how many pints I had. If you're counting you are not enjoying it."



STOUT LAD: Vegas

But despite being allergic to it, pals in his home-town of St Helens, Merseyside, said he's still stocking up on the Irish booze.

One explained: "He orders it in crates rather than four-packs. Over Christmas I wouldn't be surprised to see him plough through three or four cases himself."

"And visitors always help out. The house really does shift industrial quantities of the stuff. He should cut out the middleman and get the company to drop it round by the lorryload."

However the allergy scare has forced booze-fan Johnny to branch out into other tipples – he admits Bacardi Breezers are his drink of choice on Christmas Day.

He told Nuts magazine: "Last year, we all got rattled on Breezers after dinner. They're the perfect post-big dinner aperitif."

Johnny is not the only star to struggle with Guinness. Blade Runner star Rutger Hauer, 60, was the face of Guinness ads in the 1980s and 90s, but later confessed he couldn't stand the drink.

"I detest the stuff," he said.



CLOO...WHAT A SCORCHER

HUNKY George Clooney is so hot bosses at Madame Tussauds are worried he may melt away as frenzied fans send the temperature soaring.

They want to draft in extra security to guard the waxwork model because smitten women – and men – have been clamouring to get close since it was launched on Wednesday.

But after last week's incident when a vandal knocked off David Beckham's head, organisers at the museum want to make sure nothing happens to their newest attraction.

A museum insider said: "We're really proud of George as a new attraction and of course we're happy it's already so popular."

"But we never expected this."

"It's madness really – everyone loves the idea of a date with George and they're desperate to get to him."

"But after what happened last week we need to

■ by MAZ PARTASIDES

think about how to keep everything safe – especially George. We don't want anything to happen to him.

"Other museums have special security to look after special attractions – we just might start doing the same for Mr Clooney."

Craig's House bound

FORMER Red Dwarf star Craig Charles will be on Celebrity Big Brother when it kicks off next month.

The actor, 40, who played Lister in the sci-fi comedy, is the latest to sign up.

Cherie-Blair guru Carole Caplin, 43, David Icke, 52, and Victoria Silvstedt, 30 are already definite for the BB house.

But Charles' inclusion means there's no room on the show for Michael Barrymore, 52. Insiders say they were fighting for the same place.

HOO'VE DESTROYED THE BRITISH ARMY



AXED:
The 1st
Paras in
Basra

Cheshires

Sherwood
Foresters

Devon and
Dorsets

MERGERS:
Well known
local names
and badges
will be hit

■ by JOHN McJANNET
DEFENCE Secretary Geoff Hoon came under fire yesterday as he announced the biggest shake-up of the Army for a generation.

His programme of regimental cuts and mergers affecting some of the service's most historic names sparked uproar in the Commons.

The Scottish National Party's Annabelle Ewing was expelled from the chamber after she branded Mr Hoon a "backstabbing coward".

Shadow Foreign Secretary Michael Ancram said that the announcement from a "discredited and ineffective Defence Secretary" marked a "dark day" for the Army.

Changes

But Mr Hoon said that the changes were essential to provide a more "agile, flexible and deployable" force.

He set out plans to cut the number of infantry battalions from 40 to 36.

Smaller regiments will be amalgamated into a series of regional "super regiments".

In Scotland The Royal Scots and The King's Own Scottish Borderers will merge into a single battalion.

It will combine with the remaining four battalions - including The Black Watch - to form The Royal Regiment of Scotland.

The Royal Gloucester regiment will merge with Devon and Dorsetshire.

The plans were bitterly condemned by Mr Ancram, who said they were driven by

Attack over cost cuts in massive shake-up

the Government's need to cut costs. He said: "It is a dark day for our armed forces, and an even darker day for the proud regiments it seeks to scrap."

"Our armed forces deserve better than to be betrayed in this appalling manner by their Government."

Mr Hoon denied the changes were driven by the need to cut costs, adding: "The move to larger, multi-battalion regiments that these changes bring about is the only sustainable way in which to structure the infantry for the long term."

He said that the "golden threads" of regimental traditions would be preserved within any new uniforms - as well as in their names.

One of the other battalions being "axed" from the infantry is the 1st Battalion The Parachute Regiment.

In the Midlands, the Staffordshire Regiment, Cheshire Regiment and Worcester and Sherwood Foresters will combine as the Mercian Regiment.

Other battalions being cut come from the North west and the south.

The head of the Army, General Sir Mike Jackson, acknowledged that the regimental changes were an "emotive" issue,

particularly among retired former soldiers. But he said that they were broadly supported by serving troops who would benefit from a higher quality of professional life and less family upheaval.

He said: "There is criticism from certain quarters. I don't detect that same approach from the serving Army."

Tory MP Patrick Mercer, who was a soldier for 26 years and served as a colonel in Bosnia, said English and Welsh soldiers had been worst hit by the changes.

Pressure

The Newark and Retford MP said: "I'm appalled and believe the Government has performed a complete U-turn, bowing to pressure from the public and MPs in Scotland."

"In England and Wales we see Mr Hoon going ahead wholeheartedly with these extremely expensive and wasteful reforms."

"I was a Sherwood Forester for 26 years and my constituents, and people I have spoken to across the country today, are absolutely incensed by this act of complete destruction carried out by the Ministry of Defence."



MUSICAL: Jill Halfpenny

Dancin' Jill's fit to sing

STRICTLY Come Dancing winner Jill Halfpenny has been getting fitness tips from Jennifer Ellison after signing up to replace her in hit musical Chicago.

The 28-year-old Geordie actress was snapped up by West End bosses just days after foxtrotting her way to victory on the mega-hit BBC show.

But after signing up she quickly got on the phone to gorgeous Jen, 21, to find out what she had let herself in for.

Happy

Blonde bombshell Jenny scooped the role of Roxie Hart after her own reality telly success on ITV1's Hell's Kitchen.

And Jill says the Scouse beauty was happy to pass on her wisdom after quitting to pursue a career in Hollywood.

She said: "I'm starting Chicago in January and have spoken to Jen about the role and how demanding it is on your body."

"She gave me some very good tips on how to stay in shape and keep flexible."

"I love singing and dancing and this is a real dream come true for me."

RADIO DJ James Patterson's record-breaking bid to stay on air for a week without sleep were dashed - by a power cut. Swindon FM presenter James, 23, was 42 hours into his show when the lights went out after a fuse blew at a power station.

Matt's lap of luxury

WHIZZKID Matthew Haycox's addition to lap dancing has made him a millionaire at 23.

He nearly went broke after blowing all his student cash on dirty dances after first sneaking into a club at 17.

The teenager spent all his lolly travelling to venues across Britain and dreaming of starting up his own club.

And since opening Wildcats in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, he's added another in Harrogate and is about to buy a third.

He said: "I'm living the dream. I have loads of fun and the girls are great. "There can't be a man who doesn't envy me."

KING'S RANSOM

LISA Marie Presley, 36, has sold the rights to her father Elvis Presley's estate for £52million but will keep Graceland.



ATTACK:
Tory MP
Mercer and
Hoon, above

MAMA MIA! Little Britain stars Matt and David in a classic pose. Right, Simon Cowell and Sharon Osbourne with the Roman look



ON HIS THRONE: Phoenix Nights star Peter Kay joins the Royals - complete with beer cans



FRAME FOR A LAUGH

by MARK JEFFERIES

HERE'S proof that Little Britain is a masterpiece - the show's stars have been immortalised in a giant oil painting.

Matt Lucas, 30, and David Walliams, 33, are among a group of top celebs who are being framed as part of the British Comedy Awards.

Their faces will adorn the walls of the show this year - and they also hope to make it on to the stage.

The duo are up against The Office's Ricky Gervais for the Best TV Comedy Actor gong as well as Best TV Comedy Show.

Posed

Geordie jokers Ant and Dec have also been captured on canvas in a scene from Australia.

They are hoping to pick up Best Entertainment Programme for their Saturday Night Takeaway on ITV. Other famous

PICTURE EXCLUSIVE

names who have posed for paintings include show host Jonathan Ross and Paul O'Grady.

You can see all the comics in the flesh when the Comedy Awards go out live on ITV1 on December 22, at 9pm.

Guests giving out the gongs will include Simon Cowell, the Osbournes and Johnny Vegas.

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GEMS: Find out what you're missing in DVDs
Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle; The Simpsons; and Fawcety Towers



HIDDEN SECRETS OF YOUR DVDS

Special gifts if you know where to go

MILLIONS of Brits will be given DVDs for Christmas - but very few know that many discs contain hidden films.

Golden nuggets of film called Easter Eggs include deleted scenes, rare interviews and behind-the-scenes footage as well as out-takes and alternative endings to movies.

In Bo' Selecta's Complete Series 1, an Easter Egg includes a bonus sketch called Lemon's One Night Stands, featuring a new comedy character.

And fans of illusionist David Blaine will be left gobsmacked by a hidden film on the DVD David Blaine: Showman which shows the master magician getting his tricks WRONG.

To uncover the Easter Eggs you need to press a secret sequence of buttons on the remote control.

Computer nerds slip the secret films into the DVD's

■ by JAMES WICKHAM

programming when they make a master copy of the film for the DVD mass manufacture.

Until recently, only the most obsessed movie fans could access the info by studying dedicated websites and mags for tips.

Now experts at Tesco.com have uncovered some of the hidden gems that may be

lurking in your Christmas gifts.

A spokesman said: "For the first time we're letting everyone in on these industry secrets."

Deleted

"Some customers may find their favourite DVD, one they've had for years, has a mini-movie hidden away in it or even some unreleased deleted scenes. Let's hope we

turn a cult into something that everyone can enjoy."

Classic Easter Eggs include: **Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle** - Behind-the-scenes footage about the equipment on the set and a look at the movie's stunt work.

The Simpsons: The Complete Third Season - A cool commentary track; hidden commentaries and hilarious audio out-takes.

Daredevil - A sequence of bloopers and out-takes.

The Sixth Sense - Director M. Night Shyamalan introduces footage from a Night's First Horror Film - which he made when he was 11.

Donnie Darko - Three deleted scenes. **Fawcety Towers Series 2** - A feature on what became of the original hotel.

CD wars: Page 15



EASTER EGGS GALORE: These DVDs all have an added treat

DAILY STAR
says

Rights are all wrong

BRITAIN'S top policeman has given a chilling assessment of the terror threat.

Scotland Yard Commissioner Sir John Stevens revealed EIGHT plots to commit an atrocity in London have been foiled.

And he feared al-Qaida would attempt to carry out "a spectacular" over the festive season.

As Sir John warned of the danger, our Law Lords were busy undermining the efforts of our security forces.

They ruled the detention of terror suspects without trial under emergency powers is unlawful.

Apparently, it infringes Euro human rights legislation.

One judge, Lord Hoffman, said of the detention rules: "The real threat to the life of the nation... comes not from terrorism but from laws such as these."

Really?

Holding people without trial is not ideal, but haven't Lord Hoffman and his learned friends noticed that there's a war on?

And we didn't start it.

There have to be limits

TONY Blair wants Turkey in the European Union.

This could give Turks the right to come to Britain with 36 million saying they want to settle abroad.

Political leaders in Germany and France are worried about the impact of more mass immigration.

But our Tony has no such fears.

We've been here before when eight Eastern European nations joined the EU in May.

Mr Blair failed to restrict the amount of migrant workers allowed in, assuring us that only 13,000 would come each year.

Seven times that figure - a city the size of Lincoln - turned up in the first five months.

We've nothing against the Turkish nation. They've been a valuable ally and a force for moderation in the Muslim world.

But there has to be limits.

Daddy Dave

NANCY Dell'Olio says she and Sven Goran Eriksson may still try for a baby.

Perhaps David Blunkett could give them a hand.

SPIES FOIL EIGHT TERROR ATTACKS



TARGET: London Tube was on hit list



TARGET: Manchester's Trafford Centre



OUTRAGE: The 9/11 attacks on the U.S. killed thousands



TARGET: The Canary Wharf towers



TARGET: Arsenal's Highbury

ELITE anti-terror squads have thwarted eight September 11-style attacks in Britain, it was revealed yesterday.

The country's top police chief, Sir John Stevens, said more than 100 suspects are facing court action.

Now countries around the world want to follow the British method for preventing terror outrages.

Police, Special Branch officers, MI5 and MI6 joined forces to scupper eight terror "spectaculars" in London as well as others across the country.

Plots to blow up Canary Wharf and a poison gas attack on the London Underground have

■ by STEPHEN RIGLEY

already been foiled. Anti-terror chiefs also scuppered a truck bomb planned for Arsenal's Highbury stadium.

Plans to bomb in Manchester United's ground and the city's huge Trafford Centre have also been thwarted.

Yesterday, the Met chief spoke about the police victories as he delivered an alarming pre-Christmas warning. Police chiefs have

placed the country on the second highest terror alert and fear al-Qaida could launch a terror spectacular over the festive period.

Sir John said: "The terrorist threat has not gone away, and yes we've been highly successful to date, but we've got to keep that alertness there."

Feared

"We've been highly successful to date, but there is absolutely no reason to be complacent at all. We're putting massive amounts of effort into anti-terrorist activity."

Anti-terror chiefs from around the world are looking to follow the British lead in stopping terror plots.

US security services are on high-alert for attacks in New York and Washington.

CIA chiefs feared an al-Qaida attack in the run-up to last month's Presidential election and are worried fanatics could strike at any time.

This year, the most devastating terror attack was in Spain when 191 people

were killed by a string of bombs in Madrid on March 11.

Westerners have also become prime targets around the globe.

Over 200 people were killed in an attack on a nightclub mostly used by Australians in Bali, Indonesia, two years ago.

Last year, 50 people died in a blast at the British embassy in Istanbul, Turkey.

US experts said last night they're pretty sure an audio tape posted on the Internet contains the voice of terror chief Osama bin Laden.

On the recording, the al-Qaida leader praises gunmen who attacked a US consulate in Saudi Arabia earlier this month and warns Saudi rulers that they could be toppled by militants.

The Star Says: Page 6



FORTRESS: Belmarsh

■ by STEPHEN RIGLEY

and civil rights groups said if the Government doesn't back down it could spark a massive legal crisis.

Shami Chakrabarti, director of civil rights group Liberty, said: "By acting as judge, jury and jailer, the Government has flouted the very values it claims to defend."

WIN FOR JAILED 9

NINE foreigners held behind bars for three years without trial on suspected terror links could be freed.

The House of Lords yesterday ruled that ex Home Secretary David Blunkett's controversial anti-terror laws flouted human rights laws.

But new Home Secretary, Charles Clarke, said the group would stay in prison. Lawyers



IN THE CLEAR: Dickov

Players' ordeal is over

■ by STEPHEN RIGLEY

THREE football stars have finally been cleared of sexually assaulting three women on a Spanish training camp.

Paul Dickov, 32, Frank Sinclair, 32, and Keith Gillespie, 28, spent six nights in a Spanish jail after they were accused of attacking the women in La Manga in March.

In May the three, who played for Leicester City at the time, were cleared.

But their ordeal was dragged out after lawyers for the women appealed.

Welcome

Yesterday, the appeal was thrown out by a high-level court and under Spanish law the women are unable to take it further.

Leicester City chief executive Tim Davies said: "We welcome the decision by the judge which now finally brings an end to this episode."

"The players have always protested their innocence of all criminal charges in the strongest possible terms."

He added: "We have always maintained that we had faith in the Spanish judicial system that justice would be seen to be done."

Don't miss



STARS TEXTS LETTERS

Page 54

Uzi man is caged

A MAN who sold a machine gun to an undercover TV reporter was jailed for six years yesterday.

Michael Patrick was filmed handing over the Uzi 9mm gun to a Sky News reporter in London, in May this year, Leicester Crown Court was told.

Jobless Patrick, 42, of Leicester, who admitted selling the weapon for £2,000, said he was in debt and desperate for cash.



RIPPED OFF: Victim Alexander Jovy

'Date-rape' woman faces life locked up

A SCHEMING temptress was facing a life sentence last night after she was found guilty of spiking two rich businessmen's drinks with a date-rape drug.

Selina Hakki, 37, knocked the men out with Rohypnol and stole valuables worth £10,000 after charming her way into their swanky London pads.

The married mum-of-two is believed to be the first woman to be convicted of using Rohypnol against men.

A jury took just 20 minutes to convict her of two charges of administering a drug with intent to steal and two of theft. Both

by IAIN BURCHELL

drug charges carry a maximum sentence of life.

Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court heard Hakki cruised exclusive nightspots hunting likely victims.

Stolen

She met German banker Volker Vogler, 38, in a bar at London's Hilton Hotel in May 2002.

They were soon heading back to his Knightsbridge flat, where she spiked his glass of wine when he went to the bathroom. Mr Vogler lost consciousness and woke the

next day to find his £250 Tiffany clock, £800 Omega watch and three pairs of expensive shoes had been stolen.

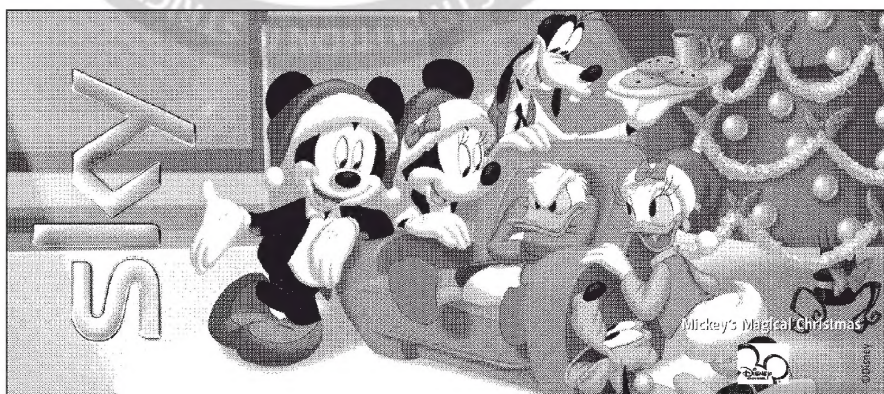
Guyana-born Hakki had also taken £100 cash and the designer clothes he had been wearing.

She struck again in September last year, when she fleeced filmmaker Alexander Jovy, 34, stealing a £5,000 Rolex watch, a £3,000 Cartier clock and a £900 video camera from his Maida Vale flat.

Hakki, of Bow, east London, was refused bail and she was remanded in custody until January 17, while pre-sentence reports are prepared.



HONEY TRAP: Selina Hakki



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36M TURKS ARE ON WAY TO EUROPE..

and guess where most of them are heading for

TONY Blair was last night facing a massive row over plans to open Europe's borders to a flood of 36million Turks.

The Prime Minister flew into Brussels to back Turkey's bid to become the first Muslim country in the European Union.

But angry campaigners warned the historic move will make Britain the top target for hordes of poverty-stricken Turkish peasants seeking a better life.

The bitter debate is expected to dominate an EU summit in Brussels today.

Last night EU chiefs were also warned that Turkey could become a backdoor for Muslim terrorists by extending Europe's border to Syria, Iran and Iraq.

Sir Andrew Green, of anti-immigration group Migrationwatch, said: "This is a slippery slope towards disaster."

"The admission of Turkey to the European Union would add nothing to the stability of the Middle East, but it would add enormously to the problem of immigration in Europe."

More than 3million Turkish migrants are already working in Europe. Most are in Germany, but many have also settled in the UK. Recent opinion polls in Turkey found that HALF the country's 71million population would head abroad given the opportunity.

Despite the fears of a huge flood of migrants, Mr Blair wants Turkey in the



From MACER HALL
POLITICAL EDITOR at the EU Summit in Brussels

EU. He aims to control immigration with a work permit system.

Last night Mr Blair was meeting Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan at the beginning of the two-day Brussels summit. Mr Erdogan is demanding full membership, including rights for Turkish workers to settle abroad.

Mr Blair has been Turkey's biggest backer within the EU. He believes the country can become a bridge between Europe and the Muslim world.

Denied

He is hoping the EU leaders will agree to start talks that could make Turkey a full EU member within 10 years. But other European countries - including Holland and Austria - are less enthusiastic. On the eve of the meeting, Libyan dictator Colonel Gaddafi warned that terror warlord Osama bin Laden could benefit from Turkey joining the EU.

The Arab tyrant - now an ally of the West after dumping weapons of mass destruction - said: "As far as the Islamic world is concerned - including the Islamic extremists, even bin Laden - they're rejoicing over the entry of Turkey in the European Union. This is their Trojan horse."

Last night, Mr Blair was pressing Turkey's case at an EU dinner with Euro leaders in Brussels.

Mr Blair's spokesman said: "He believes it is in our interests that Europe continues to expand."

The Star Says: Page 6



WARNING: Andrew Green

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NANCY: I LOST SVEN'S BABY



SHATTERED:
Sven and
Nancy were
'devastated'

NANCY Dell'Olio has sensationally revealed she was expecting Sven Goran Eriksson's baby.

The fiery Italian became pregnant by the England boss, but suffered a miscarriage.

Sven has kept the couple's heartache a closely guarded secret.

But Nancy, 46, has broken her silence on the devastating loss that left them both shattered.

The glamorous lawyer still hasn't given up on having kids - even though she fears she is too obsessive to be a good mum. She said: "I've been up and down about the idea of children."

"I lost the baby, so it's in God's hands - things are as they are."

"Maybe it will happen some day. I'd be afraid of getting too obsessed. I'm such a possessive person and I fear I'd be that way with a child."

Sven, 56, already has two grown-up kids - Johan, 24, and Lina, 17 - by ex-wife Ann-Christine. Last

Sven's girl tells of a secret heartache

■ by IAIN BURCHELL

night the Swede was refusing to comment on the revelations. A spokesman said: "Sven never comments on his private life."

Nancy says she is "happy" with Sven, who she met in Italy in 1998, and insists their stormy relationship is back on track.

Fling

She walked out on him this summer after his fling with FA secretary Faria Alam.

Nancy had loyally stood by the romance soccer chief when his affair with telly babe Ulrika Jonsson was exposed in 2002.

However, the Soho Square scandal looked to be the final straw for their relationship when Nancy stormed out of their £2million town house in Regent's Park, London, in July.

Smooth-talking Sven persuaded her to come back two months later and Nancy is now planning their future together.

She believes they are already like a married couple and is in no rush to tie the knot - although she hasn't ruled it out.

And she reckons not being married keeps some "mystery" in their romance and makes it "easier to hold on to the passion".

She said: "When you live with

someone it's not so different to being married and I don't really distinguish between the two.

"And in this way you know that you make your choice every day, so you make a constant effort."

Nancy admitted the couple have had some blazing rows, and since getting back together they have had to cope with being targeted by a mystery attacker throwing bricks through their windows.

But she says she has no regrets about going back to Sven.

Happy

She said: "I'm quite a turbulent person, so it's always a quest to be quieter. But I'm happy."

Nancy also played down speculation she could write a warts-and-all diary of Sven's flings and his private thoughts on stars like David Beckham.

She said: "I write things down. Not a diary as such but I keep notes - emotional things mostly."

The Star Says: Page 6

The full interview appears in *ES*, *The London Evening Standard's* mag, today

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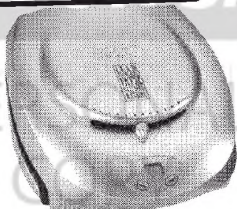
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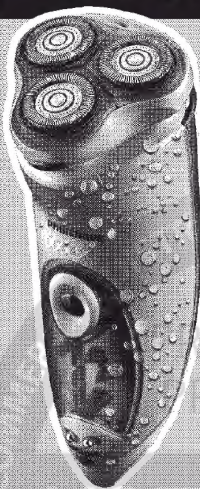
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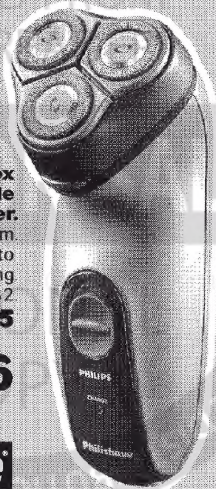
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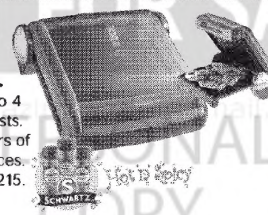
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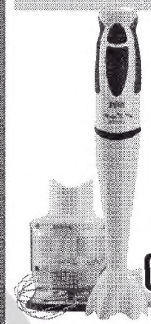
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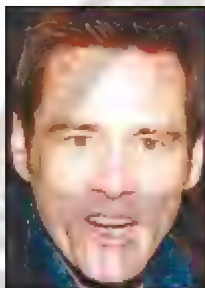
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FLING: Star Carrey

Carrey crowd teaser

GOOFY Jim Carrey flung himself head first into crowds of fans and photographers in London's Leicester Square yesterday.

The Hollywood star had hit the red carpet with co-stars Meryl Streep and Brit hunk Jude Law at the UK premiere of his new Christmas flick.

Carrey, 42, who plays wicked Uncle Olaf in Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events, had fans in stitches with his antics.

He grabbed co-star Meryl Streep and whisked her around the square while he pulled his trademark funny faces.

The red carpet was dyed yellow for the occasion and lemon trees dotted the Square.

Hours earlier the actor was among a host of A-list stars evacuated from Claridge's hotel because of a fire.

Carrey, Brad Pitt and Matt Damon had to hot-foot it from the building after a blaze broke out.

A FAMILY have been banned for life by airline bmi baby after a boy joked his aunt had a bomb. Ryan Sherwin, 16, was flying out to Spain from Manchester Airport. Mum Sue said: "They should be able to tell the difference between terrorists and a child."

Tank's a lot, Ben

DOZY central heating engineer Ben Nicholson was in the firing line - when he ordered a £2.8 million battle tank.

Ben, 24, was told to get quotes for a new bitumen-coated water storage tank.

One of the companies he phoned was defence contractor BAe Systems. And they thought he was after a military tank.

He only realised his mistake when the arms factory sent him an invoice - for £2,785,994.27.

Shocked Ben took the letter to Nik Smith, his boss at Newcastle-based Gilwood Engineering.

Nik said: "Luckily we found out the problem before they started work."

WILLY WORTH £1M

COMIC Arthur Smith, 50, has had his willy insured for £1 million as he dips it in hot tea each night in West End play Dante's Inferno.

SCHOOL TINSEL BAN

Scrooges slated over 'strangling' danger



SCHOOL scrooges have banned children from wearing tinsel at their Christmas party over health and safety fears.

Parents were stunned when headteacher Philip Lidstone claimed pupils could be strangled by the decoration.

Parents yesterday condemned the "bah humbug" attitude and accused Chipping Sodbury School, Glos., of being "Christmas Scrooges".

Julie Brown, who is married to the former chairman of the Parent Teachers' Association, David, said the ban was over the top. "I don't know what the fuss is about," she said.

Laugh

"It's only tinsel at the end of the day and I haven't heard of anyone getting hurt by it."

The shop worker's son, Ryan, 11, and daughter Charlotte, 16, both attend the school and eldest daughter Michelle, 17, has just left.

Julie, 42, added:

"Michelle always went to school on the last day of term with some tinsel in her hair and it was never a problem."

"What makes me laugh is that my youngest son Sam is eight and goes to a primary school, where, as far as I know tinsel is allowed."

"We've got tinsel on our Christmas tree at home so if it's safe there why not in school?"

Another parent said: "It is utter madness. How can the school ban tinsel but allow ties are



Picture posed by models

HUMBUG: Pupils warned tinsel is out

■ by TONY LEONARD

more likely to cause injury to pupils.

"The school is acting like the Christmas Grinch - determined to ruin everyone's fun."

School ties were a compulsory part of the school uniform until six months ago and they are now being faded out.

Deputy headteacher Mel Jefferies claimed the rules were not over-zealous.

He said: "We want all our kids to enjoy Christmas

and have a good time, while making sure there are no accidents to spoil it.

"If tinsel is worn loosely around the neck it can be pulled tight and we want to avoid anything like that."

"Tinsel can easily cause a mess, so it's also about keeping the school tidy and free of litter."

South Glos Council LEA said the ban was a matter for the school.

Spokeswoman Debra Davies said: "The safety of all pupils is of the utmost importance."

Ethnic crib's too PC

A FAMOUS church's new Christmas crib which represents the world's major ethnic groups was branded "another victory for political correctness gone mad" last night.

The 12 painted carvings represent Middle Eastern, white Caucasian, African and Asian people below a floating Angel.

It replaces a nativity scene used for 40 years at St Martin in the Fields church on London's Trafalgar Square.

That scene was badly damaged by vandals as crowds celebrated England's 2003 Rugby World Cup victory.

Former Shadow Home Secretary Ann Widdecombe fumed: "This has got nothing to do with Christmas."

■ **ABI** Titmuss is set to become a sexy star Stateside after an approach by US telly bosses.

They've seen her Hell's Kitchen exploits and raunchy photoshoots and think the 28-year-old babe could be as big as Pamela Anderson.

Last night, Abi told the Daily Star: "There are lots of prospects out there so I have my fingers crossed."

Abi States intentions

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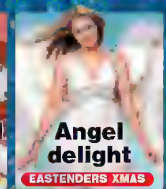
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PHWOAR, PHWOAR, PHWEW: From left, Ryan Giggs's girlfriend Stacey; Wes Brown's wife Leanne; David Bellion's Francesca; and Tim Howard's Laura. Below, Louis Saha's wife Aurelie



Pictures: EAMONN AND JAMES CLARKE

... but wives play on



Aurelie Saha, wife of striker Louis. "It would have been the perfect, relaxed occasion to have a good old natter," said a United source. "United are a big family club and the girls traditionally stick together. "It took Victoria Beckham a while to be fully accepted and it looks as though Coleen will have to work harder to become part of the gang." Last night, Coleen's spokesman said she had a prior engagement.

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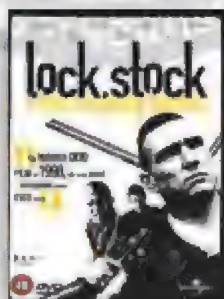
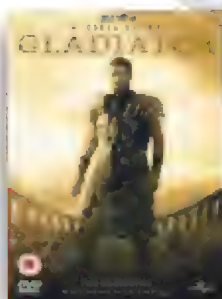
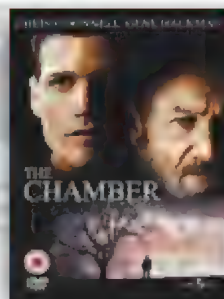
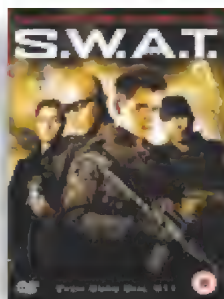
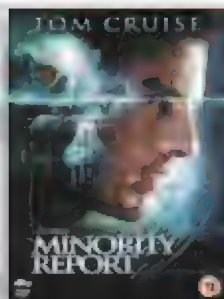
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CD WARS AS TESCO BEATS THE TAXMAN

SUPERMARKET giant Tesco is launching a new CD price war by selling music without charging VAT.

It will offer chart CDs and DVDs online from an offshoot based in Jersey - where they are not taxed.

Only best-selling titles are available with all chart CDs priced at £8.99 including delivery.

As long as each disc is sent separately and costs less than £18 a package, Customs and Excise does not impose import tax. Tesco claims CDs and DVDs

by TONY LEONARD

bought on the Jersey website are on average 10% less than on its main online store.

The company is holding back some of the full VAT saving of 17.5% to cover the costs of setting up the service.

Rules

A spokeswoman said: "We are passing on as much cost saving as we can."

"Our new service enables customers to order the latest chart CDs and DVDs at great prices. It gives

shoppers more choice and we are confident it will be a hit with our customers in the run-up to Christmas.

"The site will run alongside our existing Tesco Extra which offers a more extensive range of back catalogue titles."

The spokeswoman added: "Because each package has to cost less than £18 to comply with tax rules, it does mean that anyone buying a few items will get them delivered in separate parcels even if they all arrive at the same time."

Tesco believe fans who purchase current hits will only be interested in buying one or two discs at a time.

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CD title	Tesco Jersey	Tesco online	Tesco store
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Ultimate Kylie - Kylie Minogue	£8.99	£11.53	£12
Allow Us To Be Frank - Westlife	£8.99	£10.03	£9.77

Don't miss



FILMS & VIDS

Pages 44-46



Sexy Jodi's got a vroom with a phew

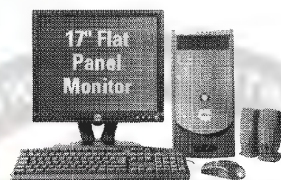
HOLLYOAKS honey Jodi Albert gets fellas all revved up as she straddles an impressive chopper.
 The leggy babe, who plays Debbie Dean in the Channel 4 soap, was in Dublin to promote a charity pop concert in January which she will be hosting.
 We reckon the 21-year-old beauty is bound to do wheely well.

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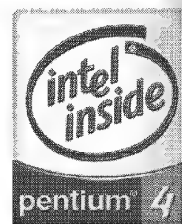
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BORING: Steve Jones

T4 presenter **Steve Jones** has been ticked off by jealous pals for bragging about getting intimate with Baywatch star **Pamela Anderson**, 37.

They've threatened to abandon the 29-year-old hunk who spent the night with Pam while she was promoting her book in London. Now boys!

Nat: I Dan the scar

NATASHA Bedingfield said her brother **Daniel**, 25, still has a scar after a fight they had 12 years ago.

She said: "Daniel's got a scar on his chest from when I scratched him when I was 12. It was his fault - he said something cheeky."

And Nat, 23, also confessed she broke Daniel's arm when she pushed him out of her treehouse.

She added: "We used to have a treehouse and I would eat breakfast up there."

"Once, Dan pretended to poison my food so I pushed him out."

THE GOSS

With **KATIE HIND**, **LEIGH PURVES** and **AMY WATTS**

ALARM BELLS RING FOR BRAD

HOLLYWOOD hunk **Brad Pitt** fled for his life after a fire broke out at his London hotel.

As yesterday's drama unfolded in the kitchen of Claridges, Brad was forced to evacuate the building along with fellow guests **Matt Damon**, 35, **Jim Carrey**, 42, and **Mick Jagger**, 61.

The blaze started in the hotel restaurant, owned by Hell's Kitchen star **Gordon Ramsay**, but firemen soon had it under control. An insider told us: "It was all very frightening. At first nobody knew what was going on and people were running around all over the place."

"There were certainly lots of distressed people in the hotel, but despite the fire the celebrities were very calm and none of them caused a scene."

Rocks

Brad, who is 41 today, was in town after jetting in from the States for a press conference to publicise his new blockbuster *Ocean's 12*, which also stars **Catherine Zeta Jones**, 35, and **Julia Roberts**, 37.

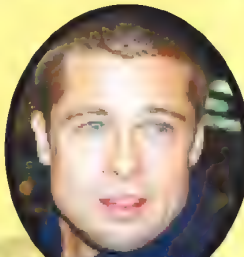
The trip has come at perfect timing for Pitt, who in the past has dated new Brit resident **Gwyneth Paltrow**, 33, and **Juliette Lewis**.

It means he can see his wife **Jennifer Aniston** who is filming her new flick *Derailed* in the city, as the couple battle to end speculation that their marriage is on the rocks.

Brad has spent the last month promoting his new film across Europe without Jen and that means the couple have not been seen together since the American Thanksgiving Day celebrations last month.

But now Brad wants his dramatic rendezvous with Jen, 35, to be noted by the world.

Our perfectly-placed mole said: "Jen has been working so hard on her next film so hasn't been able to tour with Brad. They



DRAMA: Brad Pitt

have both been under lots of pressure by being apart and the distance between them both hasn't helped.

"But now Brad wants to do something to put things right."

"He thought the age of 40 would be the turning point for starting a family."

"But it hasn't happened yet, so he's going to make an effort to work things out and spend some time with Jen."

"When they first got married they were content to hang around the house, order in and watch *Survivor*, but now that's all changed."

Party

But 35-year-old *Friends* star Jen is so busy working she's barely got time to fit in romance.

Our insider added: "This film is so important to Jen she is working so very hard on it."

"She has strived for success as a film star and this could well be 'the' film which is the next Hollywood blockbuster so she is giving it all she's got."

"Brad is hoping to go out and party with Jen on his birthday tomorrow."

"And the main thing about his birthday for Brad is that he is with his wife."

If it all goes wrong, we might just let him party with us...

Dashing Darius

PHEW, finally a picture of **Darius Danesh** without his pal **Gerl Halliwell**.

The Pop Idol competitor, 24, looks like he's making a quick getaway from the 32-year-old former *Spice Girl*.

Weighed down with a ton of clothing, the singer strode home. An onlooker said: "He looked like he was in a hurry." If he was leaving *Gezza's*, we're hardly surprised.



Picture: X17AGENCY

PARIS IS SHELL OF A SIGHT

PARIS Hilton can get away with most things but NOT stiletto heels and a track-suit. The 23-year-old blonde - famed for her foxy pink frocks and glam make-up - donned a grey tracksuit with black high heels when she ventured out to her local deli store in Los Angeles. And she tried desperately not to be recognised...as well as pulling her hood up over her head while yakking away on the phone, the heiress to the Hilton hotel chain ran in and out of shops to buy a birthday card for her pal.



Picture: PERSONA MEDIA

HAVE YOU GOT SOME JUICY GOSSIP FOR US?



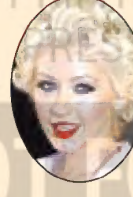
QUICKIES...QUICKIES...QUICKIES...QUICKIES...QUICKIES...

CILLA Black has revealed she taught **Jude Law** to talk dirty. The former *Blind Date* host has confessed she made him record a steamy answer machine message for her - only to find out he couldn't perform. The 61-year-old said: "I had to guide him! He was going too fast! I was like, do



it a little bit slower, Jude, love, and more sexy. "It was a re-record of a real message he'd left on my answer phone ages ago. 'Hello Cilla. I've just got home. Where are you? I've been out jogging.' Mmmmm."

BLUE have blamed cool-as-a-cucumber



Christina Aguilera for one of their worst performances ever and insist she was giving them "evil looks". Speaking with trepidation about the time they performed in France, **Anthony**, 23, said: "Christina was there, sitting in the front row of the audience with this snooty look on her face."

"We took one look at her and it really put us off. I think it might have been one of our worst performances, because her evil eyes made us feel really uncomfortable." Aaaaah.

Amy's light lunch

TIMES must be tough for jazzette **Amy Winehouse** by the looks of things.

The mouthy 20-year-old, who in the past has blasted **Dido**, 33, her rival **Katie Melua**, 20, and even the undisputed Queen of pop **Madonna**, 46, is clearly feel-

ing the pinch of not having a hit for a while as she took her own lunch to a gig in north London, right.

Still, she manages to afford the fags, which is a good thing.

At least they keep her quiet for a while.

RALF'S LITTLE BIT OF LUCK

WE'RE delighted to announce that Royle Family star **Ralf Little** is still well and truly single.

Ralf, 24, took time out from filming the next series of BBC2 comedy *Two Pints of Lager* and a *Packet of Crisps*, to tell us the good news - he's not dating co-star **Natalie Casey**, also 24.

"The fact is we're best mates and very close," said Ralfie, who was once described as not-so-Little.

"So let's just say it's lucky that Jason, her boyfriend of six years, has a sense of humour."

Ralf, who split with **Lisa Rogers** nearly three years ago, is looking forward to meeting 19-year-old **Scarlett Johansson** - because she has a crush on him.

"Bring it on, as rumours go, it's pretty cool, but I'm sure there's nothing to it," added the football ace.

LITTLE Britain funnyman **David Walliams** is already missing his ex girlfriend, **Abi Titmuss**.

The 33-year-old, who has also dated **Patsy Kensit**, has been telling pals he thinks she is gorgeous - and he even wants the 27-year-old back for Xmas.

"Dave was really fond of her, he thinks she is a great girl and they had a lot of fun together," revealed our mole close to hunky Walliams.

Go on Abi, we'll provide the mistletoe.

Tired Tara's so glum

IT'S a case of the morning after the night before for I'm A Celebrity host **Tara Palmer Tomkinson**.

But despite her dishevelled look, the 32-year-old IT girl has wasted no time since arriving in Britain from Oz in getting out and

doing what she does best - shop.

The gorgeous brunette hit west London boutiques for some serious retail therapy before resting her feet in a top cafe.

While she may be in what she considers to be her spiritual home of

fashionland, there's definitely something bothering Tara.

She usually larks around with photographers and boasts a smile on her face, but she seemed somewhat bedraggled and worn out when she was caught on camera.

SPOTTED

IN London: **Cat Deeley** at a cashpoint at Heathrow, **Nigel Planer** in TopShop, Oxford Street and **Richard Branson** with four Virgin pilots eating in Harlem restaurant on Westbourne Grove. **Denise Van Outen** in Covent Garden, **Elle Macpherson** leaving the Dorchester and **Amanda Holden** with Christmas carrier bags on Knightsbridge.

HUSH HUSH

THIS singer is a regular at a late night "massage parlour" in North London. And he's even tried convincing two of the busty blondes who work there to go on a date with him and a pal. But they turned him down because of his "bad breath", a fetish for being called "Rambo" and a habit of referring to women as "bitches". And we thought he was such a charmer.

Picture: BIGPICTURES

Picture: J-TAYLOR-BRETT/GAFOREURE

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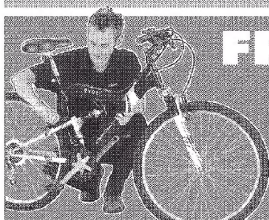
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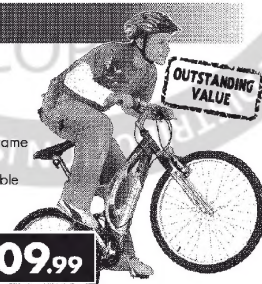
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Sisters in style

■ TENNIS star Venus Williams, 24, (left) modelled a shimmering dress at a fashion show to launch the latest range of clothes by her younger sister Serena, 23 (above).
■ The sisters were showered with flowers after the show in Miami Beach, Florida.

Pictures: AP/ALAN DIAZ

MAXINE'S NEW LIFE IN AFRICA

She'll aid kids – and find a lover



CHILD killer's moll Maxine Carr plans to flee to Africa to help orphan children.

Carr – who lied for Soham murderer Ian Huntley – has decided she will quit Britain if she loses a New Year court bid to keep her identity secret for life.

An associate of the 27-year-old former teaching assistant said one reason for the overseas switch was her close friendship with an African woman.

The insider revealed: "This girl and Maxine are the best of friends. In fact she is probably her ONLY friend

■ by JERRY LAWTON

because no-one else wants to know her. The girl is very religious and totally forgiving.

"She has given Maxine a clean slate and has promised her that in Africa she will be treated like anyone else.

Threats

"Maxine still wants to help children and realises there is no likelihood of that happening in England.

"She is talking about helping orphan children and maybe meeting a partner over there without the baggage she carries here." But a

move to Africa would overturn a Home Office assessment that she was "not mentally strong enough" to live abroad.

Carr was released on parole last December after serving only half of her three-and-a-half year prison sentence.

Since then she has been living under a new name and identity.

A High Court order banning anyone from giving out details of her identity or whereabouts is due to be reassessed in the New Year.

Death threats mean she has to be protected 24 hours a day at a cost to the taxpayer of £1million a year.

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GIVE US A BELL

DURAN DURAN drummer **Roger Taylor**, pictured, rang me for a natter this week...

You're playing Birmingham City Football club in May. Nervous?

We're really looking forward to that one. Birmingham is always the special one. The family will be coming along and all our mates. It's the first headline show there since we played the Villa ground 20 years ago.

Scissor Sisters joined you on your last tour. How were they?

We got on well. They're really great



people. **Ana's** a huge Duran fan. Hopefully we might get them to support us in Birmingham.

How have you changed in the last 20 years?

Everything is about the show now. It used to be about getting the show out of the way and getting the party going.

What's on your iPod?

I don't get much of a chance to listen to new stuff, but I really love the **Red Hot Chili Peppers**. They're a band we look up to.

Was David Blunkett right to have gone?

It's a great shame when someone's personal life overshadows a great

career. He was a good Home Secretary who did good for the country.

Do you dig out the old Duran albums to see how they've aged?

I don't go out of my way to listen to them, to be honest. We play the old songs enough on stage, but when I do it is very interesting. It's like listening to someone else entirely. We were kids when we made those records.

Will Duran Duran be here in another 20 years?

I think so. I'm certainly really happy where we are right now. It feels as if we rediscovered something special and we're really enjoying it. I can't really see an end to it. I can see it going on for a long time.



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KYLIE'S SUCH A HOT SHOT

SEXY pop princess **Kylie Minogue's** elegant image always brings pleasure.

So when this exclusive shot arrived I gave directives for it to cover most of the page.

The little wriggler's currently at No.4 in the album charts with her **Greatest Hits**.

And she will be embarking on her **Showgirl Tour** next year.

Just look at this fantastic picture – and be happy.

Picture:
XEVI

